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Fishery Products

Antidumping duties on imports of salmon from Norway

2005

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Report Highlights:

The European Commission and the Norwegian Salmon industry have reached an agreement on measures to address the selling of Norwegian salmon at unfair dumped prices on the European market.

The tariff, currently applied as a provisional measure, will be replaced by a minimum import price which will act as a guard against unfair pricing.

> Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No **Unscheduled Report** Brussels USEU [BE2] [E3]

In April 2005, the European Commission decided to impose provisional antidumping duties on imports of farmed salmon from Norway. This measure was introduced to replace the safeguard measures in force which were referred to the Council by Denmark and France and eventually lifted by the Commission since no qualified majority (QM) was established to allow for a continuation of the safeguard measures. The decision was referred to the Council since Denmark and France supported by other Member States (MS) had raised serious questions about whether conditions for introducing safeguards had been met and thereby running the risk of compromising WTO rules.

The European Commission and the Norwegian salmon industry have now reached an agreement on measures to address the selling of Norwegian salmon at unfair dumped prices on European market.

The Commission will propose to replace the provisional import tariff that has been in place sine April 27, 2005 by a minimum import price set initially at €2,81 per kilo of fresh salmon, reflecting overall Norwegian production costs. These measures could be converted into definitive measures lasting five years by the Council should the Commission's ongoing investigation confirm its provisional assessment of unfair pricing. This minimum import price will adjust according to market changes. The minimum price will apply to all Norwegian exporters and there will be no additional measures.

The minimum price, which is set to reflect market production costs in Norway, should protect salmon producers within the European Union from unfairly dumped imports. The idea is that unlike the imposition of a tariff, the setting of a minimum import price would not add additional costs for Norwegian exporters if they respect this price. It would ensure in a simple and transparent manner that Norwegian producers do not sell products in the EU at below the cost of production in Norway. The use of the minimum price would also remove additional costs to European importers and processors of Norwegian salmon.

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